

## ABSTRACT

This report presents the results of cultural resource survey of the Proposed 6.3 mile Route 896 Corridor. Based on review of the environmental setting and known site locations, expectations for prehistoric site encounter were derived and used to structure Phase I testing design. Background research revealed potential nineteenth century historic site locations within the proposed right-of-way. Phase I archaeological reconnaissance and testing of the Project ROW encountered eleven prehistoric sites, with occupation dates ranging from Archaic to Woodland II. Expectations for prehistoric site location were generally met, with most sites associated with stream courses. Six historic occupations in or adjacent to the Project ROW were encountered archaeologically. Most, but not all, relate to agricultural endeavors. Phase II Investigations were conducted on seven sites, with one prehistoric and two historic sites determined eligible for the National Register.

The Brennan Site #1, Area "A", is a Woodland I occupation which functioned as a secondary reduction station for Delaware Chalcedony Complex jasper. Its eligibility hinges on the documented presence of buried artifacts and the opportunity it affords for study of the prehistoric exploitation of this lithic source. The Jacob B. Cazier Tenancy Site #2 served as the late nineteenth and early twentieth century residence of a black retainer of gentleman farmer Jacob B. Cazier. The site can provide archaeological data for comparison with other investigated tenant sites in Northern Delaware, but more importantly, presents the opportunity to study the lifeways of black individuals from this period through the archaeological record. "Stone Mason and Plasterer" Thomas Williams owned the house site named after him during the latter nineteenth century; the site is thus unusual for its occupation by a tradesman in a region otherwise dominated by agricultural pursuits at this time. Informant evidence of occupation in the early twentieth century by a black couple would make the site an additional source of archaeological data on this ethnic group, providing opportunities for study of related issues.